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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ken WATANABE et al.

Serial No.: 09/654,089

Filed: September 1, 2000

For: METHOD FOR SENDING NOTICE OF FAILURE DETECTION

Group: 2184

Examiner: E. Puente

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FEB 23 2004

Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT

February 13, 2004

MS AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 21, 2003, the period for reply thereto being extended by one month by the attached Petition for Extension of Time to expire on February 21, 2004, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks are included following the amendments.